

## 2017 Soil & Water Conservation Accomplishments

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- Prescribed Grazing, 114.9 ac.
- Reduced Tillage, No-till, 76.6 ac
- Roof Runoff Structure, 4
- Stream Crossing, 1
- Timber Stand Improvement, 280.8 ac.
- Tree, Shrub Establishment, 8.1 ac.
- Underground Outlets/Tile, 38,916 feet
- Waste Storage Facility, 4
- Water and Sediment Control Basins (dry dams), 97
- Watering Facility, 2
- Construction/Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan reviews, as presented, 12
- Site visits to monitor construction, 24

### Education Events

- Dubois County Creek Sweep
- Presentations for school classes, scout troops and civic groups, as requested
- Soil Judging Invitational
- Twilight Composting Workshop

### Meetings/Training/Workshops hosted

- Spring and Fall Field Days at VUJC
- On Farm Network producer meeting
- SWCD Annual Meeting
- Women For the Land, Forestry Learning Circle

### Events assisted with:

- Community Connect
- Dubois County Food and Ag Day

- Dubois County 4-H Fair/Project Judging
- Envirothon; Southwest Indiana Regional
- FFA National Convention
- Four Rivers Forestry Committee Family Nature Fest
- Jasper Chamber of Commerce Home Expo
- Legislative Town Halls/Tours
- Old Jasper Days Duck Race on the Patoka River
- Patoka Lake Clean Up Day

### Grant Projects

- Clean Water Indiana
- The SWCD partners with SWCDs in Pike, Gibson, and Posey Counties to offer cost share for a bundle of conservation practices, including cover crops, soil testing, and no till. This \$75,000, three year project has been very successful, and concluded at the end of 2017.

- The SWCD partnered with Spencer and Perry Counties on a three year project for livestock producers, funded for 2016-2018. The SWCD has provided cost share for the construction of Heavy Use Protection Areas, Watering Pads, and Pasture Renovation. Funding remains for one more year.

- The SWCD participates in other pass through grant projects as they become available. The Nature Conservancy offered two opportunities for landowners interested

in cover crops in 2017: through the Alcoa Foundation, and also through Caterpillar.

### Other SWCD Projects and Programs

- The SWCD provides a no-till drill, erosion control blanket staplers, hand seeder, tile flags, and spinning jenny, at minimal or no cost to landowners for conservation uses.
- Staff and Supervisors maintain contact with national, state, and local elected officials by attending and hosting events, including legislative breakfasts.

*SWCD Supervisors and Staff participate in training opportunities to allow them to operate at their full potential. Training and meetings attended:*

- Annual conference of Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- SW Indiana IASWCD Region Meetings
- Indiana District Employee Association Fall Conference

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Kayakers cleaning a log jam on Patoka River during 2017 Creek Sweep.

# Otto J. Bauer Memorial Outstanding Conservation Farmers of the Year

1965 Edwin Small  
 1966 Allen Werne  
 1967 Amos & Carl Freyberger  
 1968 Buening Bros.  
 1969 Gilbert Whitsitt  
 1970 Cedar Crest Farms  
 1971 Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Fleck  
 1972 Mr. & Mrs. Leo F. Gehlhausen  
 1973 Gwen & Lucille Rudolph  
 1974 Niehaus & Katter Farming  
 1975 Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Begle  
 1976 Mr. & Mrs. James Seger  
 1977 Mr. & Mrs. William Hopf  
 1978 Kevin Haycox

1979 David Schnell  
 1980 Sam Feldmeyer & Family  
 1981 Leroy Loehr Family  
 1982 Melvin Sermersheim Family  
 1983 Joe Ketzner Family  
 1984 Mill Creek Farms  
 1985 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Lueken  
 1986 Rauscher Farms, Inc.  
 1987 Otto J. Bauer Family  
 1988 Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Begle  
 1989 Mr. & Mrs. Glen Voelkel  
 1990 Welp Homestead Farm  
 1991 Steve Weyer  
 1992 Vernon Meyer

1993 Don Eck  
 1994 Ralph Jochem  
 1995 Wehr Family  
 1996 Wanda Kalb Family Farm  
 1997 Lloyd Prusz Family Farm  
 1998 Ed Reckelhoff, Jr.  
 1999 Ponder-Yonder Farms  
 2000 Stan Leinenbach  
 2001 Norbert & Elfrieda Johanneman  
 2002 Alan and Ruth Small  
 2003 Clarence and Tony Buechler  
 2004 Roman & Sheila Wagner Family  
 2005 Brad Wehr  
 2006 Whitsitt Farms, Inc.

2007 Weisheit Bros. Farms  
 2008 Balsy Haven Dairy  
 2009 Lange Farms, Inc.  
 2010 Norman Schue  
 2011 Clarence & Sue Brames  
 2012 Oxley's Rolling Hills Farms  
 2013 Ring Farms  
 2014 Welp's Farm and Greenhouse  
 2015 Mill Creek Farms  
 2016 Alan Weyer  
 2017 Kurt Voelkel